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January 22, 2004

To: Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572

28 Davis Ave.

Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject:

Serial No. 10/706,495 11/12/03

Ying-Lang Wang et al.

IMPROVED CMP PROCESS LEAVING NO RESIDUAL OXIDE LAYER OR SLURRY PARTICLES

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Citation In An Application.

The following Patents and/or Publications are submitted to comply with the duty of disclosure under CFR 1.97-1.99 and 37 CFR 1.56.

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, January 27, 2004.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

Signature/Date

TSMC-01-167CD

- U.S. Patent 5,662,769 to Schonauer et al., "Chemical Solutions for Removing Metal-Compound Contaminants from Wafers After CMP and the Method of Wafer Cleaning," discloses a tungsten CMP process and post clean.
- U.S. Patent 6,165,956 to Zhang et al., "Methods and Apparatus for Cleaning Semiconductor Substrates after Polishing of Copper Film," discloses a tungsten CMP together with NH4OH brushing in the background section.
- U.S. Patent 5,968,280 to Ronay, "Method for Cleaning a Surface," discloses a poly-electrolyte post CMP clean.
- U.S. Patent 5,868,863 to Hymes et al., "Method and Apparatus for Cleaning of Semiconductor Substrates Using Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)," discloses a cleaning method and apparatus using very dilute hydrofluoric acid (HF) for cleaning silicon wafers and semiconductor substrates.
- U.S. Patent 6,207,630 to Vaartstra, "Processing Compositions and Methods of Using Same," discloses compositions and methods for using such compositions in the removal of contaminants from substrates and equipment.

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Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. #37761

Form PTO-1449 Doctor Humber (Openion) TSMC-01-167CD 706 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Appacant IN AN APPLICATION FRANG Dosso 9 20Cs (Use several shouls if necessary) U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS MINER DOCUMENT HUMBER DATE HALE TLAD DATE Y APPROPRIATE CLASS BUBCLES 438 633 510 134 134 28 510 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY CLUSS SUBCLASS YES OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Dale, Portiners Pages, Elc.) EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.